

American Dragon
"The Rotwood Files"
(777A-215)

TEASER

ON A TV SET - the "AMERICAN DRAGON" logo fills the screen.

1	TV ANNOUNCER (V.O.)	1
	We're sorry. "American Dragon: Jake Long" will not be seen at this time. Please stay tuned for a special presentation.	

PUSH IN ON:

THE "SPUD & STACEY SHOW!" OPENING CREDIT SEQUENCE

A corny sitcom opening filled with cliches and pratfalls:

--HOME FROM SHOPPING - SPUD pulls an ice cream cone from his bag, STACEY pulls out a celery stick. They laugh.

--VACATION TIME - Spud exits a closet dressed in skiwear. Spud exits another dressed in surfwear. They laugh.

--CHRISTMAS MORNING - Spud opens a box with a KITTEN, Stacey one with a PUPPY. The pets fight, and Spud and Stacey laugh.

--SPRING CLEANING - Stacey looks over a sparkling room. Spud rolls through frame, covered in mud. Stacey shakes her head.

2	O.S. SINGERS	2
	He's slobby, she's snotty / But he thinks she's a hottie / "The Spud and Stacey Show!" / She's perky, he's quirky / Can their love ever worky? / "The Spud and Stacey Show!"	
	(chorus)	
	Wherever they go, he says "yes" she says "no," / An odd couple you cannot denyyyyy! / Whenever--	

3	JAKE (O.S.)	3
	Yo, Spud!	

HARD CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

A dazed SPUD stands at the taco bar with JAKE and TRIXIE, humming his theme song. Jake waves a hand in his face.

4 SPUD 4
<humming, then> Huh? Wha..?

REVEAL - Spud's been staring at STACEY, who sits at a nearby table chatting with some other CHEERLEADERS.

5 JAKE 5
Are you dreaming you and Stacey are stars of your own sitcom again?

6 SPUD 6
No. (a beat) Okay, yes. It was gonna be the one where she burns the pot roast and we all learn the true meaning of New Year's Eve.

Jake and Trixie exchange a look.

7 JAKE 7
Sorry, Spud, but trust us -- you can totally do better than her.

8 TRIxie 8
Yeah, that girl is shallower than a kiddie pool with a leak in it.

ON STACEY'S TABLE - Stacey finishes painting her toes while her fellow cheerleaders study from history books.

9 STACEY 9
Columbus, schmolumbus. Which of my toes is the prettiest?

SPUD - grabs a DECORATIVE ONION off the taco bar, offended.

10 SPUD 10
Bite your tongues. Stacey's got more layers than an onion.
(takes a bite, tearing up)
I just <sniff>... dig her so much!

As Trixie and Jake stare at him--

PROFESSOR ROTWOOD - addresses the cafeteria from the middle of the room. He holds his RULER.

11 ROTWOOD 11
Attention, hoodlums! Tonight is FillmoreFest: where we showcase to your parental guardians all that is good at this school! It is the first of my administration, and it will go smoothly!

JAKE, TRIxie, & SPUD - roll their eyes as Rotwood continues, slowly making his way towards them.

12 ROTWOOD (CONT'D) 12
As an example of how *not* to dress
this evening, observe... JAKE LONG!

Rotwood SLAPS his ruler on the taco bar next to Jake, sending TACO FIXINS' flying. Jake jumps.

13 JAKE 13
Baah!

Rotwood gestures to Jake's hair with his ruler.

14 ROTWOOD 14
Hair shall be combed, not spiky!

Jake simmers as Rotwood gestures to Jake's shorts.

15 ROTWOOD (CONT'D) 15
Proper slacks will be mandatory!
None of this half-pants/half-shorts
chickeny leg knickernoodling!

16 STUDENT 16
<more snickers>

17 JAKE 17
(seething)
Yo, Rot--

18 ROTWOOD 18
And no more "yo!" When you speak
your "street slang" no one
understands what the
käseundcrackers you are talking
about! Dismissed!

As Rotwood walks off, STUDENTS point and laugh at Jake.

19 STUDENTS 19
<laughter>

Jake turns to Trixie and Spud, humiliated.

20 JAKE 20
Okay, that is it! I have had it
with Rotwood. Tonight, at
FillmoreFest, it's payback time.

Spud leans in, tears streaming down his face.

21 SPUD 21
<sobbing> We're here for you, man.
We totally feel your pain.

22 JAKE 22
Thanks, Spud, but dude -- you don't
have to take it so hard.

Spud holds up the onion.

23 SPUD 23
I'm not. <sniff> It's the onion.

24 STACEY (O.S.) 24
Um, are you crying?

Spud looks up with tear-stained cheeks, shocked to see Stacy
staring at him. He tries to gather himself, wiping his eyes.

25 SPUD 25
<sniffle> Huh? Oh, no, I was--

26 STACEY 26
Yes you totally were! You were
tearing up like a baby because your
friend got humiliated by Rotwood!

27 SPUD 27
<sniff> No, it was--

Suddenly, Stacey swoons.

28 STACEY 28
That's so sensitive and sweet...
and so totally *hot*.

A beat, as Spud considers how to respond. Then--

29 SPUD 29
Can't we all just learn to love?!
<sobs>

Spud embraces her, taking another bite of onion behind her
back. Off of Jake's and Trixie's disturbed looks, we--

SMASH TO TITLES

ACT ONE

INT. SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - EVENING

ON A STAGE - set up in the middle of the gym. A STUDENT in a suit (reuse FREDERICK from #209) addresses an OS crowd, which can be heard <MURMURING>.

30	STUDENT	30
	Ladies and gentlemen, I give you the principal of Fillmore Middle School, HANS ROTWOOD!	

ON THE CLOSED GYM DOORS - bursting open to APPLAUSE as PRINCIPAL ROTWOOD comes through, lit by a SPOTLIGHT, carried on the shoulders of the FOOTBALL TEAM. He shakes hands as he's carried past the crowd and dumped onto the stage.

ON JAKE - sitting next to MOM and DAD, in the bleachers. He leans forward; Trixie and Spud lean forward, too--they exchange a conspiratorial "thumbs up."

ON THE STAGE - Rotwood takes his place behind the podium. At each side are glass reflectors for a teleprompter. Next to him is a STATUE UNDER A LARGE SHEET.

31	ROTWOOD	31
	Danke, thank you. Before we are beginning, I am proud to unveil the wood shop's newest creation...	

Rotwood pulls a string, making the sheet drop away, revealing a GIANT WOODEN MILLARD FILLMORE. APPLAUSE fills the room.

32	ROTWOOD (CONT'D)	32
	A mahoghany statue of former U.S. President Millard Fillmore! (as applause dies down) Ja, beautiful. And later tonight, President Fillmore's six-year-old great, great, great, great, great granddaughter Millie will be here to share her melodious singing voice.	

More APPLAUSE. Rotwood adjusts his monocle and begins his speech, reading from the teleprompter.

33	ROTWOOD (CONT'D)	33
	<ahem> Parents, students, friends, the State of our School is strong.	

APPLAUSE rings through the gym.

34 ROTWOOD (CONT'D) 34
 Hear me when I say: I chew other **
 people's gum and spit it in the **
 hair of your monkey-faced children. **

Rotwood freezes, hearing what he just said. He looks to the teleprompter--the words hang on the screen.

35 VARIOUS PARENTS (OS) 35
 He's a gum spitter?/Forget that! **
 HE CALLED OUR KIDS MONKEY-FACED!

ON THE CROWD - Jake "air high fives" Trixie and Spud.

ON ROTWOOD - scrambling to make up for his error.

36 ROTWOOD 36
 No! I-I-It was a mistake! Someone
 changed the teleprompter!

ON THE WINGS - the BANDLEADER of the MARCHING BAND sees Rotwood wave his hands in the air.

37 MARCHING BANDLEADER 37
 He's waving! That's our cue!

HORNS blare as the marching band takes the stage, with the school's SPARTAN MASCOT. Rotwood tries to wave them back.

38 ROTWOOD 38
 No, not yet! Stay back, please! I
 must finish my speech!

Rotwood, trying to hold them back, accidentally shoves the mascot backwards.

39 SPARTAN MASCOT/VARIOUS PARENTS 39
 <whoa!>/ <gasp!>

40 PARENT #1 (O.S.) 40
 He just shoved the Fillmore
 Spartan!

The mascot flails wildly, trying to keep balance.

QUICK CUTS: 1.) His PROP SHIELD jettisons off his arm, flying across the room. 2) It THUNKS into the head of the mahogany Millard Fillmore. 3) WIDER - The statue crashes to the ground, the head SNAPPING off the body. 4) A GIRL IN OVERALLS races onstage, cradling the head in her arms.

41 GIRL IN OVERALLS 41
My mahogany Millard! You were so
hard to carve...

ON THE CROWD - Trixie raises an eyebrow at Jake - "too far?"
Jake just shrugs - "what're you gonna do?"

ON THE STAGE - Rotwood looks on in shock.

42 ROTWOOD 42
Please, this is all a big
misunderstanding! I was pranked!
The teleprompter... the band...
there was supposed to be a song...!

Just then, a Shirley-Temple-sweet MILLIE FILLMORE takes the
stage riding a STICK HORSE and wearing a red, white and blue
sequined cowgirl outfit with an American flag for a cape.

43 MILLIE FILLMORE 43
Yankee Doodle went to London riding
on a pony...

44 ROTWOOD 44
SILENCE YOUR MACARONI DOODLE
SINGING! I DIDN'T MEAN NOW! <gasp>

Rotwood gasps, realizing what just happened. He turns just
in time to see Millie Fillmore start crying.

45 MILLIE FILLMORE 45
<crying>

46 ROTWOOD 46
Millie, I'm sorry, I--

Rotwood tries to reach for Millie, who's galloping O.S.
crying. In doing so, he trips and falls bottom-first onto
the mahogany Fillmore head.

47 ROTWOOD (CONT'D) 47
Whooooaaaaa-OUCH!

48 VARIOUS PARENTS 48
<gasp!>

49 PARENT #1 49
He just desecrated our thirteenth
president!

50 PARENT #2 50
Rotwood, you're a MONSTER!

51 VARIOUS PARENTS 51
You horrible man!/ This is an
outrage!/ I'm calling my senator!

Rotwood puts a hand over his eyes, shaking his head.

JAKE - smiles blissfully.

MATCH CUT TO:

EXT. JAKE'S SCHOOL - THE NEXT DAY

ON JAKE - wearing the same expression. We WIDE OUT to reveal he's walking up the front steps to school with an equally blissful Spud and Trixie.

52 JAKE 52
Man, can you believe last night?
We changed one line in Rotwood's
speech. One line!

53 TRIXIE 53
And the walls came a tumblin' down!

Spud nods, but mid-sentence, he stops in his tracks.

54 SPUD 54
Totally! I-- <gasp> Stacey!

Spud pulls an onion out of his pocket and takes a big bite. His eyes suddenly tear up just as Stacey appears.

55 STACEY 55
Have you guys, like, heard?
Principal Rotwood was, like, fired!

Trixie and Jake exchange stunned looks.

56 JAKE/TRIXIE 56
Say what?/ Say huh?

Spud wipes the onion-tears from his eyes.

57 SPUD 57
You know, I'm no fan of 'ol Rotty,
but a man <sob> fired from his
life's passion <sob>... it's just
so sad!

Stacey puts a comforting arm around him.

58 STACEY 58
Awww. There, there. You wanna go
get some ice cream or something?

59 SPUD 59
<sniffle> Will there be hot fudge?

60 STACEY 60
A squirt for every tear.

As Spud and Stacey head off, Jake turns to Trixie, hanging
his head with guilt.

61 JAKE 61
I never thought I'd say this, but I
actually feel kinda bad that--

A group of JOCKS & CHEERLEADERS pass by.

62 STUDENTS (2 MALE, ONE FEMALE) 62
<congratulations walla: Jake, way
to go! / Tele-props on the
teleprompter! / You're our hero!>

Jake's expression turns from dismay to one of elation.

63 JAKE 63
(continuing)
---feel kinda bad that we didn't
get rid of him sooner!
(off Trixie's look)
No, think about it, Trix: No more
Rotwood and I'm the most popular
kid in school! We can get away
with anything!

FLASHBULB POP TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - JAKE'S FANTASY - DAY

THUMPIN' BASS PLAYS as Jake, Trixie, and Spud ride down the
hallway (at a snail's pace) in a TRICKED-OUT LOW RIDER driven
by a CHAUFFEUR. The trio is propped up in the backseat,
waving to admiring students like the grand marshals of a one-
float hip-hop parade.

64 STUDENTS (ECHOEY) 64
<continuous excited cheering>

As the low rider BOUNCES up and down on hydraulics, we--

FLASHBULB POP BACK TO:

Jake catches a burger shooting through the air.

72 JAKE (CONT'D) 72
Aw. Yeah. <chomp>

Stacey rubs Spud's arm, comforting him. Spud points OS.

73 SPUD 73
<sobs> Look at that...

Stacey turns to look. In a quick, deft move, Spud pulls his sleeve down revealing a chunk of onion taped to his wrist. He inhales deeply and instantly goes back to <CRYING> just as Stacey turns back.

74 SPUD (CONT'D) 74
It's just so moving to see meat
being distributed aurally...

75 STACEY 75
You. Are. So. Deep.

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - THAT AFTERNOON

Jake walks down the hallway with Trixie and Spud, eating his burger. Spud is arm-in-arm with Stacey, his cheeks stained with tears. Happy kids walk down the hallway eating.

76 TRIxie 76
Maybe this was the way things were
supposed to roll. The school is
bumpin' with positivity.

Just then, a JANITOR bursts out of a door, marked "BOILER ROOM," his face filled with terror. He quickly slams the door shut behind him.

77 JANITOR 77
Somebody get Principal Brock!
There's some kinda critter in the
boiler room and it ain't natural!
It ain't natural!!

Kids (including Stacey) scatter away from the door in fear.

78 STACEY/STUDENTS 78
<fearful walla>

Jake, thinking quickly, addresses the hallway.

79 JAKE 79
 Okay, nobody panic. I'm sure it's
 just my pet... emu.
 (sotto, to Trixie, Spud)
 Let's check it out.

As the three friends make for the door, we--

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL BOILER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

UP ANGLE ON RICKETY STAIRCASE - as the door shuts securely behind Jake, Trixie and Spud. The place is dark, dank and creepy. Droplets of water drip from leaky overhead pipes.

Trixie FLIPS the light switch on and off. Nothing.

Jake removes a FLASHLIGHT from the nearby hook and shines it ahead. They apprehensively make their way down the staircase.

80 SPUD 80
 Okay, this is the part of the movie
 where someone in the audience yells
 "Don't go down there!"

POV - of the forboding room, as the flashlight beam cuts through the darkness. SOMETHING SMALL AND SHINY skitters across the flashlight beam.

BACK ON THE TRIO - at the base of the staircase. Spud is now comically cowering in Trixie's arms.

81 TRIxie 81
 What the creature-double-feature
 was that?!

82 JAKE 82
 I'm not sure. It looked like some
 kinda giant--<impact>

Jake is suddenly knocked OS by a <SCREECHING> HORRIFIC GIANT MAGICAL INSECT (as big as a medium-sized dog, with compound eyes, slimy proboscis, grasshopper legs, and a beetle shell). Jake drops the flashlight, which spins around on the floor.

83 TRIxie/SPUD 83
 Jake!!

ON JAKE AND THE GIANT INSECT - the bug is on top of Jake and jabs at him with its freakish proboscis.

(They're illuminated strobe-like by the spinning flashlight beside them. The strobe effect should comply with the Disney company's "Current Visual EFX Guidelines, Flashing and Intermittent EFX" document.) The proboscis hits the floor and peels off slowly--it's sticky. **

84 JAKE 84
<effort> Slimy tongue punches!
Nasty! Time to Dragon Uhhh--

Jake turns, seeing--

A couple of students trying to peer down through the small window of the boiler room door.

Jake quickly covers.

85 JAKE (CONT'D) 85
--to start draggin' you, um, off 'a
me, you silly emu!

Jake grabs the flashlight from the floor and blocks the creature's next "tongue punch"--the flashlight sticks to the tongue, and when it flicks back, hits the Giant Insect in the face, knocking itself out. Jake springs to his feet.

86 JAKE (CONT'D) 86
Okay, any bug that big has gotta be
magical.

87 TRIxie 87
But what's it doing at school?

A <CLICKING NOISE> from a dark corner. Spud points.

88 SPUD 88
Well, if he's here for the learnin'
he brought along a study group!

ZIP TO - FIVE MORE INSECTS are perched on a nearby crate, eyes glowing. They leap through the air at Jake.

89 TRIxie 89
Jakey! Look out!

In a bad-ass maneuver, Jake swings and flips from a series of overhead pipes, kicking the SQUEALING creatures with his feet, mid air.

90 JAKE 90
<leaping and flipping efforts>

Jake flips and lands in a kung fu stance on the floor, as--

The unconscious giant bugs fly into an open crate in rapid succession. Trixie and Spud promptly place the CRATE LID on top of it as Jake walks up to taunt the insects.

91 JAKE (CONT'D) 91
I call that move The Windshield --
it goes 90 an hour and flattens
bugs.

Just then, a hand comes down on Jake's shoulder.

92 JAKE/TRIXIE/SPUD 92
<surprised scream>

Trixie and Spud dive for cover. Jake spins to see:

BROCK - stepping out of the shadows.

93 BROCK 93
<tsk-tsk-tsk> Infestation in the
basement? If only Rotwood had
spent more time keeping this place
tidy and less time desecrating
wooden statues...

Brock throws his arm around Jake.

94 BROCK (CONT'D) 94
Jake, I admire your dedication to
cleaning up this school. Come with
me.

Brock exits, beckoning Jake to follow.

CUT TO:

INT. BROCK'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Principal Brock sits on his desk, looks down at Jake, and smiles. Several beats pass; Jake nods, uncomfortable.
(Note: there's a LARGE SAFE nearby.)

95 BROCK 95
<pleasant chuckle> Your pals
seemed to leave very quickly when
they saw me, didn't they?

96 JAKE 96
I guess they thought you were--

97 BROCK 97
Let's cut through the cream cheese.

98 JAKE 98
Excuse me?

Brock's expression darkens.

99 BROCK 99
I'm not here to launch burgers and
wipe snotty little noses. I came
to do what that Bavarian bozo
Rotwood couldn't.

100 JAKE 100
Give a speech?

101 BROCK 101
(Gary Oldman crazy)
CATCH THE DRAGON!

102 JAKE 102
D-Dragons? Uh, I don't know what--

103 BROCK 103
STOP PLAYING ME!

Brock gathers his composure, smiles again, and continues.

104 BROCK (CONT'D) 104
I too am a researcher of the
magical world. Rotwood may be a
fool, but I believe he was on to
something with his talk of a dragon
at this school. And now I have an
all-access pass to capture it.

Jake squares his jaw as Brock rises to his feet.

105 JAKE 105
But... I don't know anything about
dragons.

Brock paces in front of blank wall, and a REMOTE CONTROL from
his pocket. He <CLICKS> a button, and an overhead projector
starts displaying a series of POWERPOINT-TYPE SLIDES:

--Photostats of Rotwood's files on Jake, Trixie and Spud.

106 BROCK 106
But you do, Jake. You do. See,
I've read Rotwood's files on you
and your friends. The unexplained
absences, the curious behavior...

--Security camera footage of Jake, Trixie, and Spud racing into the basement as students around them cower.

107 BROCK (CONT'D) 107
Like your reaction to those
creatures I planted in the
basement. Everyone's frozen in
fear, but you three race into
action, almost as if you all had
experience fighting magical
creatures. If I know my mythology,
that's a dragon's job. So then,
which one of you was on the clock,
hmm?

108 JAKE 108
You planted those things? But--

Brock clicks to the next slide: netted and tagged giant magical insects.

109 BROCK 109
Oh, I've had some small luck in the
field, but the people who fund my
kind of research need to see
something special. Like a captured
dragon. And soon, I will deliver.

Brock holds up a VIAL OF MYSTERIOUS BLUE LIQUID.

110 BROCK (CONT'D) 110
This is Brockium. A chemical of my
own invention that will make any
disguised dragon revert to its true
form... I have but one vial now,
but once I use it to expose this
school's dragon, I'll have the
funding to mass produce all the
Brockium I could ever want.

NEW SLIDE - a crudely-animated simulation showing Brockium being sprayed from helicopters onto a line of people below. A small percentage of them transform into dragons.

111 BROCK (CONT'D) 111
Dragons everywhere will be
unmasked, and the name Sigmund
Brock will go down in history!

LAST SLIDE - Brock's face on several magazine covers.

Jake eyes the vial uneasily. Brock catches his glance.

112 BROCK (CONT'D) 112
But of course, we regular humans
have nothing to fear, now do we?

Brock uncorks the vial and pretends to tip it toward Jake,
who tries to keep his cool.

113 JAKE 113
Nope. Guess you'd just be wasting
your only vial, huh?

A sudden <KNOCKING> causes Brock to look up, his hand shaking
slightly. A drop of Brockium spills onto:

JAKE'S HAND - which starts to SHAKE UNCONTROLLABLY.

114 STUDENT #1 114
Principal Brock? It's recess. Can
we hang out with you?

WIDER - Jake quickly shoves his hand in his jacket pocket as
Brock opens the office door, turning on the charm. A group
of students has congregated outside.

115 BROCK 115
Of course! Now who wants to learn
Extreme Foursquare?

116 STUDENTS 116
<cheering walla: I do!/ Yaaay!/
World's Best Principal!>

As Brock exits with the group, he turns back to Jake.

117 BROCK 117
Any time you want to talk, Jake...

Jake flashes a peace sign with his non-pocketed hand.

118 JAKE 118
Right on. Peace.

Brock exits. Once he's gone, Jake slowly pulls his hand from
his jacket pocket, revealing that it's DRAGONED UP.

119 JAKE (CONT'D) 119
Aw, man...

FADE OUT.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. GRANDPA'S SHOP - NIGHT

CLOSE ON JAKE'S DRAGON HAND

120 JAKE (O.S.) 120
We've got problems.

WIDEN - Jake's with GRANDPA and FU DOG. Fu takes a DOG BISCUIT from his dish, which sits next to a plate of cookies.

121 GRANDPA 121
With that chemical, Brock is beyond dangerous. He must be stopped.

122 FU DOG 122
You got one principal fired, kid.
Time to get workin' on the sequel.

123 JAKE 123
Why don't I just sneak in, steal the Brockium and get rid of it?

124 GRANDPA 124
Too risky. If you were caught, it would only prove to him that you are a dragon. Fu Dog is right.
You must get rid of your principal!

Not looking, Grandpa takes a biscuit instead of a cookie. He bites in and takes with immediate disgust. He grabs a paper bag, puts it to his mouth, and retches down out of frame.

125 GRANDPA (O.S.) (CONT'D) 125
Dog biscuit? <retching>

He stands back up and hands the bag to Jake.

126 GRANDPA (CONT'D) 126
You must also get rid of this bag.

RECORD SCRATCH TO:

EXT. BACK ALLEY - NEXT DAY

Jake walks past a dumpster, carrying the paper bag.

127 JAKE 127
"Get rid of your principal..." How am I supposed to--

Jake tosses the bag into the dumpster.

128 ROTWOOD (O.S.) 128
Ach! Do you mind?!

Rotwood stands up inside the dumpster. He looks awful.

129 JAKE 129
Rotwood?! You, uh, need some help?

130 ROTWOOD 130
Nein no no, I love the scavenging
life! For example, you see a half-
eaten can of soup, I see an
hilarious novelty hat!

Rotwood holds a can of soup upside-down on his head and tries
to do a happy little dance, but it doesn't last.

131 ROTWOOD (CONT'D) 131
Oh, who am I kidding?! This is a
cruel world in which prompter
bloopers lead to smashed dreams!
(bitter) I hope you're happy with
your new principal.

Jake rolls his eyes.

132 JAKE 132
Pfft. Principal Brock is a freak.

133 ROTWOOD 133
Yes, I am sure he is a very--
Brock?! Surely you do not mean
Sigmund Brock.

134 JAKE 134
Uh... yeah. You know him?

135 ROTWOOD 135
Know him?! Ach mein streudel! He
was my professor at Fumshteiken
University!

The background goes BLACK and we PAN AWAY into blackness to
REVEAL we're looking at a blackboard in...

INT. BAVARIAN CLASSROOM - DAY

A YOUNGER BROCK points to a drawing on the board--it's like
the famous "primate, Co-Magnon, walking human" drawing--
except this one ends with a Centaur.

136 ROTWOOD (V.O.) 136
It was he who opened my eyes to the
unseen magical world. He changed
my life forever!

REVERSE - a YOUNG ROTWOOD stares in awe. He's got a Kid n' Play fade, a boom box on his shoulder, and M.C. Hammer pants. Rotwood "Hammer shuffles" with sideways stutter-steps O.S. When he returns, he's dressed in his traditional outfit.

WIPE TO:

EXT. PARK - NIGHT

A FAIRIE lands on a flower, then zips away just before a net comes down. WIDE OUT to REVEAL the Young Rotwood, holding the net. Brock, next to him, grabs the net angrily, shoves a "DUMMKOPF" dunce hat onto Rotwood's head, and stomps away.

137 ROTWOOD (O.S.) 137
But Brock was too harsh a
taskmaster. He exploded with rage
at the slightest mistake...

Young Rotwood takes off the dunce hat, regarding it sadly.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SIDEWALK - SAME

Jake looks at Rotwood, unamused.

138 JAKE 138
Yeah, I kinda know what that's
like. (then) But I'd still take you
over Brock any day of the week.

139 ROTWOOD 139
And I would return in a heartbeat
if I could....

A beat, then Jake looks at Rotwood. He's got an idea.

CUT TO:

INT. LONG HOUSEHOLD - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Jake walks in as Dad plays a boardgame with HALEY. Mom sips a CUP OF TEA.

140 JAKE 140
Hey, everybody. I have a surprise.

Jake opens the door to reveal Rotwood with a FLOWER BOUQUET.

REACTIONS: Dad is puzzled. Haley's mouth drops. Mom grabs a broomstick, twirls it like a bo staff, and charges at camera with the staff raised.

141 MOM 141
<charging yell>

CUT TO:

INT. JAKE'S BASEMENT - LATER THAT NIGHT

Rotwood unzips his suitcase, his hair littered with broom straw. Jake opens the storage unit and pulls out the folded up Aero-style bed.

142 JAKE 142
Don't take mom's reaction to you personally. She beats all our houseguests over the head repeatedly with a broom. It's, uh... just her way.

As Jake pulls out the bed, some PICTURES flutter out to the floor. Rotwood spies one and picks it up.

143 ROTWOOD 143
I see I'm not the only one with an interest in magical creatures.

Rotwood hands the picture to Jake. Jake looks at it.

CLOSE ON THE PICTURE - it's Dragon Jake, mugging for the camera, breathing fire off to the side.

Jake covers.

144 JAKE 144
Huh? Oh, yeah, um... Family trip to Dragon Adventures amusement park. <heh> Good times.

Rotwood stares at Jake, still suspicious.

145 ROTWOOD 145
I have never heard of this amusement pa--

EXT. SIDE OF SCHOOL BUILDING - JAKE'S FANTASY CONT'D - SAME

Spud suction cups across the building, opens up a control panel, and splices wires with a set of PLIERS.

152 JAKE (V.O.) 152
...Spud will suction-cup across the
east side of the building and cut
the security camera wires.

INT. HALLWAY NEAR MAIN ENTRANCE - JAKE'S FANTASY - SAME

CLOSE ON - a scanning security camera monitor, powering down.

WIDE ON HALLWAY - as Jake flies down the hallway at top speed, dragoning down to open the front door to the school. A large silhouette walks in.

153 JAKE (V.O.) 153
Once that's done, I'll let in one
of the lunch ladies... The hot one.

The silhouette steps in, and we see it's a SEXY LUNCHLADY in a bulky overcoat, which she slips out of. She nods at Jake.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE CAFETERIA - MOMENTS LATER

Jake hides around the corner and watches as--

The Lunch Lady stands outside the cafeteria, flirting with a SECURITY GUARD. She then tosses back her hair flirtatiously and feels the guard's "muscles," acting impressed.

154 JAKE (V.O.) 154
...who will then flirt with the
security guard and get him to
unlock the cafeteria door.

The guard, flattered, nods and unlocks the door for her.

155 TRIxie (V.O.) 155
And how are we getting the lunch
lady involved?

156 JAKE (V.O.) 156
That's the thing. It won't be the
lunch lady.

Trixie provides a distraction from down the hallway. As the guard leaves to investigate--

Jake walks up to the "Lunch Lady," who "peels" off her face Mission Impossible-style to reveal Professor Rotwood in drag.

157 JAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D) 157
It'll be Rotwood.

Rotwood stands guard as Jake disappears inside the cafeteria.

INT. CAFETERIA - JAKE'S FANTASY CONT'D - SAME

QUICK STYLIZED CUTS: 1.) Jake removes a ceiling air ventilation grate. 2.) He shimmies through a vent. 3.) He emerges through a vent in Brock's office. 4.) Jake uses his "dragon ear" to crack the safe, and open it, revealing CASH.

158 JAKE (V.O.) 158
While he stands guard, I'll climb
into the air vent, follow it to
Brock's office, and use my, uh,
"special skills" to "borrow" the
school's candy bar fundraiser cash.

INT. BROCK'S OFFICE - JAKE'S FANTASY CONT'D - NEXT MORNING

Brock is escorted out in handcuffs by TWO POLICE OFFICERS.
As they leave, we hold on the empty, open safe.

159 JAKE (V.O.) 159
When the safe is discovered empty,
they'll blame the only dude with
the combination!

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JAKE'S BASEMENT - BACK TO REALITY

Jake excitedly wraps up his plan.

160 JAKE 160
And later we can anonymously return
the money! What do you think?

161 ROTWOOD 161
It's wunderbar! Let's roll!

SMASH TO:

INT. LIBRARY - NEXT MORNING - PRE-DAWN

Jake and Trixie, in cheesy catburglar outfits, are comically tangled in a rope hanging down from the skylight. (No ropes near the necks, please.) Brock and the Security Guard stand below them, holding Rotwood, who's dressed in a terrible wig, hair net, and white muumuu, make-up smeared across his face. **

162 ROTWOOD 162
(falsetto) Didn't your Mutters **
teach you how to treat a lady? **

163 BROCK 163
Rotwood, my old pupil... Somehow I
always pictured you ending up
pretty much exactly like this.

Spud runs through frame, a suction cup stuck to his face.

164 SPUD 164
(muffled)
Help! It's sucking my brain!

CUT TO:

INT. BROCK'S OFFICE - DAY

Jake sits in front of Brock, at his desk. Brock smiles; Jake is uncomfortable. Brock's demeanor suddenly darkens as he unfurls Jake's schematics.

165 BROCK 165
You left your plans on the roof.
YOU WERE TRYING TO SET ME UP!

166 JAKE 166
What? No! I--

167 BROCK 167
Why don't you just come clean about
the dragon's identity? Save me some
time. And a world of misery.

Brock stands up. Jake backs up a bit, wasn't expecting this.

168 JAKE 168
P-people know I'm here.

169 BROCK 169
Relax, Jake. I'm just making the
morning announcements...

Brock turns on an intercom microphone behind his desk.

170 BROCK (CONT'D) 170
 Hola, students! This is your pal,
 Principal Brock...

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Students listen to the intercom.

171 BROCK (V.O.) 171
 I am sad to inform you there has
 been an attempt to have me fired
 from this school.

172 STUDENTS 172
 <outraged walla: No!/ Say it ain't
 so!/ Who could do that?!/ Traitor!>

INT. BROCK'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Brock continues speaking into the microphone, while smiling
 evilly at Jake.

173 BROCK 173
 But I suppose Jake Long in homeroom
 217, locker number A331, is
 entitled to his own opinion of me.
 That is all.

Brock turns off the mic, turning sinister on a dime.

174 BROCK (CONT'D) 174
 I'm going to expose the truth,
 Jake. You can help me, or you can
 continue to suffer. Say "Hi" to
 your classmates for me.

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - LATER

Jake walks the hall uneasily, looking around at the sea of
 glaring faces. The Jocks and cheerleaders from earlier have
 changed their tune.

175 STUDENTS (2 MALE, ONE FEMALE) 175
 <threatening murmur: That's the
 guy./ Brock hater./ I hear he beat
 up the school mascot.>

176 JAKE 176
 Heh-heh. How's it going, guys?
 Anybody else have the pizza
 yesterday? Lots of oregano in that
 sauce, am I right?

177 STUDENT #1 177
 Oh, great! Now he's trying to get
 the hot lunch lady fired, too!

STUDENT #2 holds a large can of pizza sauce, which he guzzles
 from directly.

178 STUDENT #2 178
 I live for that sauce! <gulp gulp>

179 JAKE 179
 No-no-no! I just--

180 FOUR SQUARE STUDENT (PARTIAL O.S.) 180
 Extreeme Foursquaaaare! <effort!>

A small student holding a foursquare ball runs down the
 hallway and hurls it at Jake like a dodgeball.

181 JAKE 181
 Whoa!

Jake dodges, but the ball hits Student #2 in the stomach,
 causing him to spew out pizza sauce all over Jake.

182 STUDENT #2 182
 <spit take>

183 FOUR SQUARE STUDENT (O.S.) 183
 Brock rocks!

Jake stands there humiliated, covered in pizza sauce.

CUT TO:

INT. LONG HOUSEHOLD - BASEMENT - NIGHT

Rotwood is busy writing down ideas in a journal. Jake walks
 downstairs, still clutching his stomach and covered in sauce.

184 ROTWOOD 184
 Jake! I've been working up new
 ideas on how to get rid of Brock!
 My favorite so far: make him
 allergic to children.

Rotwood smiles. Jake smiles back.

185 JAKE 185
It's pretty weird, huh? Us
throwin' in, considering all we've
been through.

186 ROTWOOD 186
Like the time I gave you a week's
detention for saying "aw" and
another week for "man..."

187 JAKE 187
Or the time I put mondo bondo glue
around your monocle frame...

188 ROTWOOD 188
Or the time I gave you a detention
while you were in a detention...

189 JAKE 189
Or the time I messed with your
teleprom...(realizing)...date. You
know, your date from, uh, Tel Aviv?

Rotwood stands up, dropping his journal.

190 ROTWOOD 190
You-- You started to say
"teleprompter!" You are the riff-
raffian who got me fired!

191 JAKE 191
Hey, I just changed one line--

Rotwood is red from anger.

192 ROTWOOD 192
Know this day that you have made a
powerful new enemy! (then) Yes,
all right, technically an old enemy
who wasn't for a while but now
again is on the side of-- Ach! YOU
KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING!

Rotwood grabs his bag, zips it quickly, and storms out.

CUT TO:

EXT. JAKE'S PORCH - DAY

Jake calls after Rotwood, who storms off, bag in hand.

193 JAKE 193
No wait! Come back!

Fu walks out and pats Jake on the leg, comfortingly.

194 FU DOG 194
Ah, don't sweat it, kid. What's
the worst that could happen?

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BROCK'S OFFICE - NIGHT

CLOSE ON - the photo of Dragon Jake seen earlier.

195 BROCK (O.S.) 195
Yes... the photo is quite real.
I've sent it to every news
organization in the City.

WE WIDE OUT - to include Brock on his phone, smiling evilly.

196 BROCK (CONT'D) 196
I will prove the photo's
authenticity at a press conference
tomorrow. Yes, the dragon is
masquerading as a human, but my new
assistant assures me he knows
exactly who he is...

WIDE OUT FURTHER - to include Brock giving the thumbs-up to
Rotwood, by the desk, smiling and giving the thumbs up back.

CUT TO BLACK:

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. JAKE'S SCHOOL - DAY

REPORTERS and CAMERAPEOPLE mill about newsvans parked by the school. WIDE OUT TO INCLUDE Jake, Spud, and Trixie. Spud spots Stacey, takes a whiff of onion, and approaches.

197 SPUD 197
What's <sniffle> going on, baby?

198 STACEY 198
Get this: Brock says he's going to reveal that somebody at school is--

199 SPUD 199
--incredibly sensitive?

200 STACEY 200
--a gross, fire-breathing DRAGON!

201 JAKE 201
Aw, man!

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Jake, Spud, and Trixie walk together looking troubled.

202 SPUD 202
We gotta get you outta here, bro.

203 JAKE 203
I can't just leave him with the Brockium. No dragon will be safe.

204 TRIxie 204
So what do we do then?

Jake stops outside the cafeteria, looking at the doors.

205 JAKE 205
We finish what we started.

CUT TO:

INT. VENTILATION SHAFT - SAME

Jake crawls forward, as Trixie looks down through the grate above Brock's office. Spud is chewing on something.

206 JAKE 206
Yo, what are you eating?

207 SPUD 207
(crying)
Onions. I really dig 'em now. And
check this out! <burp>

As Spud belches, the resultant vapors blur his face. Jake and Trixie immediately hold their noses.

208 JAKE/TRIXIE 208
<gagging noises>/ Aw Spud, come on
with the onion breath!

Spud waves his hand in front of his still-blurry face.

209 SPUD 209
I call it the veil of tears.

Trixie points through the grate, worried.

210 TRIXIE 210
Uh, Jakey... was Brock's office
like *that* last time?

JAKE'S POV - through the grate, we see the office; a web of lasers spiral through the room. Two giant insects keep watch, leaping and replacing each other's guard positions in unison.

Jake turns to face Trixie.

211 JAKE 211
He may have redecorated a little...

INT. BROCK'S OFFICE - SAME

Jake drops into the room in human form, slipping through the laser web as the insects take notice.

212 JAKE 212
DRAGON UP!

Dragon Jake uses his tail to flick a switch on the far wall. The lasers flicker off as-

--the insects spring at him from opposite directions with a vicious SCREECH.

Jake ducks, causing the insects to crash into each other. they fall onto their backs, where they're helpless.

213 JAKE (CONT'D) 213
Guys, I got 'em!

Spud and Trixie drop down and start looking for the vial, pulling drawers from desks, checking the bookshelf.

214 TRIxie 214
The blue stuff's gotta be around
here somewhere!

Just then, one of the insects flips over and leaps at Spud.

215 JAKE 215
Spud look out!

Spud sees it and instantly reaches into his pocket.

CLOSE ON - Spud, now holding an onion, the bg gone, replaced by anime colors (like Ash holding up a Pokemon ball).

216 SPUD 216
Go! Onion battle!

Spud tosses the onion directly at the leaping insect. It catches it in its mouth and crunches down on it. The insect <YELPS,> hits the ground, and starts <CRYING.>

217 SPUD (CONT'D) 217
Onions. They ask for so little and
give (getting choked up) so much.

Jake "ties" up the other insect, bending Brock's metal coat rack around it. Meanwhile--

Trixie opens a book on Brock's desk. It's hollow--the vial of blue liquid inside. She holds it up.

218 TRIxie 218
Yo, is this it?

219 JAKE 219
That's it. Let's jet.

Bars suddenly shoot up from the ground, caging them in.

220 JAKE/TRIXIE/SPUD 220
What the--?/ Yo!/ Ahhh!

Jake morphs to human form as the door opens, revealing Brock.

221 BROCK 221
Well, isn't this tidy? I've been
looking all over for you.

Brock rushes forward and grabs the vial from Trixie.

222 JAKE 222
Yo, Brock, you can't--

223 BROCK 223
YES, I CAN! AND I WILL! See,
thanks to my former protégée, I now
know which of you is the dragon.

Rotwood steps into the room, glaring at Jake, Trixie, and Spud evilly. He holds the dragon photo of Jake from earlier.

ON THE TRIO - as their eyes filled with betrayal.

224 JAKE 224
Rotwood?!

225 BROCK 225
Come, Hans. Let's go expose a
dragon. (pauses) Oh, and just so
his friends don't try any funny
business...

Brock presses a button; a HYDRAULIC HISS is heard as the cage's ceiling lowers and the floor of it raises.

226 BROCK (CONT'D) 226
You're all coming along. Won't
that be fun?

Off of Jake, Trixie, and Spud's worried looks, we--

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - MOMENTS LATER

The bleachers are filled with parents, teachers, and media. Brock wheels the caged Trixie, Spud, and Trixie towards the makeshift stage (established earlier).

227 CROWD 227
<shocked gasps and reactions: He's
got those children in a cage!/
That cage is an outrage!>

Brock smiles a sinister smile.

228 BROCK 228
Is it an outrage? Or will what you
are about to see revolutionize
science as we know it? Watch...
AND BELIEVE!

Brock takes out the vial of formula and uncorks it.

229 BROCK (CONT'D) 229
Rotwood, are you sure he's the one?

REVEAL - Rotwood, standing in the wings, concealed from the crowd. He gives the "thumbs up" sign.

ZIP PAN BACK - to Jake, Spud, and Trixie.

230 JAKE 230
<defeated sigh> This is it, guys.
This is how it ends.

Brock steps in front of them, addressing the crowd.

231 BROCK 231
Ladies and gentlemen... behold the
mighty dragon!

With a flourish, Brock throws the formula in the face of...
SPUD!

232 CROWD (O.S.) 232
<gasp!>

233 BROCK 233
Change into your true form!

Spud wipes himself off.

234 SPUD 234
<spits> Dude! That stuff tastes
like socks and old cabbage! <smack
smack> Needs onion.

Enraged, Brock reaches through the bars and grabs Spud.

235 BROCK 235
CHANGE INTO YOUR TRUE FORM!

236 PARENT #1 (O.S.) 236
He's yelling at that poor boy!

237 BROCK 237
This "boy" is a dragon!

Rotwood steps out from the shadows, getting in Brock's face.

238 ROTWOOD 238
That boy is a boy! Now let go of
him this instant!

Brock looks at Rotwood, his face filling with realization.

239 BROCK 239
(hushed)
You. You set me up! You told me
he was the dragon! But it-- it
must be him! He has the dragon
breath! Look at him, steam is
coming out of his mouth right now!

ON SPUD - chewing another onion, his face again blurred by
his breath.

240 SPUD 240
<lip smacking> Mmmm, sharesies?

He holds a fresh onion up for Brock. Rotwood turns to the
crowd, playing it up.

241 ROTWOOD 241
A Dragon? At this school?
<chuckle> I don't care about your
fantastical delusions, Principal.
What I care about...
(laying it on thick)
Are the children. The beautiful,
beautiful children of the world.

THE CROWD - erupts in applause.

242 CROWD 242
<agreement walla: Yeah! / You go,
Rotwood! / You should be running
this school, not him!>

THE SECURITY GUARD from earlier leads Brock away, kicking and
screaming like a madman. Rotwood places the "DUMMKOPF" hat
on Brock and waves bye-bye as he's dragged past.

243 BROCK 243
You don't understand! One of those
snotwipes is a dragon! A dragoon!

TRIXIE, SPUD, and JAKE - smiling and high-fiving as a second
SECURITY GUARD unlocks their cage.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CAFETERIA - NEXT DAY

Jake, Trixie and Spud sit together at a table. Stacey passes. Spud quickly takes a huge whiff of onion.

244 SPUD 244
Hey <sniffle> Stacey.

245 STACEY 245
Faker.

Stacey keeps walking, ice cold.

246 JAKE 246
What's up with her?

247 SPUD 247
She saw me eating the onion at Brock's press conference, and contrary to rumor, reputation, and standardized math test results, she was able to put two and two together.

He pulls out another onion that's carved like a girl's face and starts to work on its "hair" with a plastic knife.

248 SPUD (CONT'D) 248
But no matter. Once I finish whittling my onion Stacey, I'll always have a beautiful shoulder to <sniff> cry on. <sobbing>

He caresses the onion on his face.

249 SPUD (CONT'D) 249
<sob> Ow. <sniff> Her beautiful stinging juices... <sob>

250 TRIxie 250
(to Jake)
You ever think we didn't give Rotwood enough credit? I mean, it was pretty slick how he pranked Brock and got his old job back.

251 JAKE 251
<scoffs> Please. You think that was planned? Rotwood's so clueless, he probably did think the AmDrag was--

252 ROTWOOD (O.S.) 252
Jake Long!

253 JAKE 253
<surprised yell>

Jake turns to see Rotwood standing behind them.

254 ROTWOOD 254
I would like to shake your hand.
Thank you.

255 JAKE 255
Uh... Sure...

Jake shakes Rotwood's hand. Suddenly, Rotwood grips his hand tight. Jake's hand starts to shake, then uncontrollably transforms into a dragon hand.

256 JAKE (CONT'D) 256
What the--?!

Rotwood releases and holds up his palm, to which he's taped the vial of Brockium. It's now empty.

257 ROTWOOD 257
One drop left. It seemed a shame
to let it all go to waste.

Jake shoves his hand in his pocket, but it's too late.

258 ROTWOOD (CONT'D) 258
Oh, don't bother. I always
suspected it was you. But I'll be
a schweinhund's uncle before I let
Sigmund Brock take credit for my
discovery.

Rotwood leans down, getting in Jake's face.

259 ROTWOOD (CONT'D) 259
I will find a way to expose you
myself one day. But until then...
I have a school to run. Ta!

Rotwood exits cheerily, and Jake withers.

260 JAKE 260
Aw, man!

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END